

## **Abigail Badenhorst's Testimony**

Ever since I was little I remember going to church every Sunday and hearing about how amazing God is.

My parents were saved before I was born so I always knew them as Christians. Since I was young, I only had Christian friends and one of them was the pastor's son.

I was pretty much always scared of something in South Africa, whether it was being murdered or being attacked by the 'monster' under my bed. God helped

me get through these times with enough sleep to get me through the day no matter what I saw or dreamed about at night.

When I was about nine, at church one day there was a sermon on the rapture. It got me thinking about how much I wanted to go to heaven to be with God. That day when I got home, I prayed to God and asked him to forgive me for everything and to take me to heaven when I die. However, I started drifting from God a bit a couple years later.

My parents fought a lot when we first moved to Australia, and I was bullied quite a bit from year 4 until about halfway through last year just because I was different and didn't try 'fitting in' with everyone else. I wasn't sure if there was actually a God looking out for me during that time. When I finally did pray about it and asked God to come back into my life and bring me closer to Him, everything seemed to get better and easier to deal with.

I don't care what people think about me anymore. If they have a problem with me then they can deal with it. I figured I don't need to put up with the bad stuff people think about me; that's when I got my full assurance about God. Until that point I would still constantly worry about people thinking I'm too different or too weird even though God reminded me through different people that it doesn't matter what other people think.

Near the end of 2015 I decided that I wanted to get baptised, so I asked pastor Charlie about what I'd have to do to get baptised, and he did some Bible studies with me, and the Bible lessons gave me assurance to know that I really am saved and I do desire to follow the Lord and get baptised.